THE BIBLE SPEAKS

BY DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN

Background Scripture: Luke 16:1-31; 19:11-27.
Devotional Reading: I Corinthians 9:16-27.

Faithful in Little

Lesson for February 26, 1956

EVERYBODY has some kind of a chance in this world. We all sometimes think we would do better if we had the same chance the next man has; but we may be deceiving ourselves. Jesus tells a story about three men each of whom had the very same chance. Each was given the same sum of money, and told to make what he could out of it. One man increased the money ten times; one multiplied it by five; but the third man did not even try. What if he had tried? Considering the sort of man he was, a pessimist and a self-confessed coward, it can be doubted whether he would have been able to do as well as the other two did. At any rate, Jesus calls our attention first of all to the fact that even if everybody had an equal chance, not everybody would do equally well with it.

Dr. Foreman

Gifts of God

We call persons "gifted" when they have some remarkable talent or ability. When we say this, we mean, or we ought to mean, that a man's capacities are not his own invention, they are God's gifts. Two thoughts go together here and must not be separated: the first is that what we have to start with and the opportunities which life brings us along the way, are really gifts of God. The other thought is that God expects us to develop these gifts, take advantage of these opportunities, do something with what we have. Caruso the famous tenor said once, modestly, that he deserved no credit for his magnificent voice. He was born with an extraordinary muscular development in his vocal cords, something possessed by few men. Most men could not be Carusos no matter how hard they try. On the other hand, if all Caruso had done was just to take his throat for granted, never learn singing, never go through the long discipline of the operatic star, the world would never have been thrilled by that golden voice. God's gifts plus our work, that is the divine plan.

Nothing Too Small

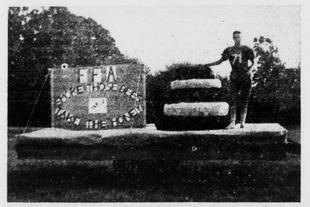
All this is simply the principle which the church calls "stewardship." It is simply recognizing that what God gives us, we are expected to use and make the most of, in his service. The trouble right here is that most of us are rather like that third man in Jesus' parable. We see these big, able people going "great guns," we see what wonderful things others are doing, and we know very well we can't do anything like that . . . so we don't try to do anything. Now it should be noted that in this little story, the returning king does not say to the second man, who made only five pounds, "You rascal, why didn't you make ten like this other man?" On the contrary he is pleased with the man, promotes him. What God really despises is not small results; what he despises is refusing to try. We are not reasonable before God for not being brighter or stronger than we are. We are responsible for what we do with such ability as we have, whether small or great.

In the Church

See how this works out in the life of the church. A superintendent asks a girl to take a children's class. Oh no, she can't do it, she says, backing away. She hasn't had experience, she isn't a professional school teacher, she hasn't had a lot of education, she isn't like that brilliant Mrs. So-and-So who was such a whiz of a Sunday school teacher for twenty years. So what? Suppose she's not a topnotcher? She has had little brothers and sisters, she can learn the Bible, she loves her Savior and she loves children too. Stewardship, for that girl, is not what she can do with Mrs. So-and-So's brains and experience, it's what she is willing to do with her own. Or take a man who is elected to a minor position in the church. He doesn't think he can do much in that office, so he declines it. But the question still is—not, what can he do with an office he doesn't have? But, what will he do with the office he does have? Another man does not contribute to the church because he has next to nothing he can give. He is afraid of comparisons. But God does not ask: How do you compare? Only: Are you faithful?

(Based on outlines copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A.; Released by Community Press Service.)

FFA Float Shows School Spirit



Shown here is the first place winner in the A. H. S. homecoming float parade of last fall. It is the F. F. A. float, planned and made by F. F. A. member. Player is Floyd Jamerson.

The F. F. A. float which won first place in the "Homecoming Parade" last fall is one evidence of the spirit of cooperation which exists in the F. F. A. for school and comemunity activities. The float was planned and constructed by the F. F. A. members to fit in with the theme of homeocming.

Another example of cooperation this year was the joint sponsorship with the Future Homemakers of two square dances for the recreation of the high school students and others. The F. F. A. cooperates with the Forest Fire Wardens by taking fire-fighting training and organizing Keep Virginia Green crews which are ready at all times to be called to fight forest fires.

In cooperation with the agricultural conservation program, the F. F. A. Chapter and its members have planted over 40,000 pine seedlings during the past year. Hundreds of wildlife game patches were planted last spring by chapter members. Every spring pruning demonstrations are held to teach the members the proper methods of pruning and caring for fruit trees. Close to one hundred exhibits were entered in the Farmville Fair and the Lynchburg Farm Show by individual members.

Another community service activity takes place every Christmas when the local F. F. A. Chapter makes up a Christmas basket for some needy family in the county. This year the members contributed seven dollars into a State F. F. A. fund to be used by a fellow F. F. A. member in a midwestern state who is afflicted with polio. Last spring the chapter seeded the elementary school grounds as a community project. These projects show that the F. F. A. truly teachers cooperation and community service.

Stonewall

Stonewall, Feb. 21.- "Come unto me all ye that labor and are reavy laden and I will give thee rest."

We still have so much sickness and sadness around us. We hope the sun will soon shine through all the dark clouds.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Kelly Stratton. A baby girl was born to them at Virginia Baptist Hospital last Thursday. They named her Deborah Anne.

Mr. Jim Herndon returned home from the hospital last Saturday and is improving at his home near here. Mr. and Mrs. Jimmie Stratton are spending awhile in the Herndon home.

Mr. Vaughan, of the Fort Hill Methodist Church made a good talk at Bethel Church Sunday morning, enjoyed by all present.

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Collins, of Lynchburg spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Caldwell.

There was a large attendance at the W. S. C. S. meeting of Bethel Church in the home of Mrs. James McKenry last Wednesday evening. A good program was enjoyed by all present.

Dr. Twyman Williams filled his pulpit at Stonewall Presbyterian Church on Sunday morning. He is always a welcome guest in our community.

We were so happy to see our pastor's wife, Mrs. Colie Rock and baby son, Dave, back at church Sunday morning, after being absent for some time due to illness.

Mr. and Mrs. Buddie Gauldin spent last week-end with his parents in North Carolina.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Beard and son, Lawrence and Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Chick visited Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Drinkard Sr., in Lynchburg Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Showalter, of Lynchburg spent Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Carson.

Mrs. A. A. Babcock and son, Bradley, of Appomattox, visited Mrs. W. R. Stratton and Mrs. S. L. Scruggs last week.

Mrs. Lester Carson and Mrs. E. L. Chick attended the Moore and Harris wedding at Red Oak Baptist Church last Tuesday night. It was a lovely wedding, on St. Valentine's day.

TOOTH CONTROL

Much rat damage is caused by random gnawing, since they must gnaw almost every day of their lives to keep their teeth from growing too long. John M. Amon, rodent control specialist at VPI, says the teeth of rats grow from 4½ to 5 inches a year, and certain death will result if they become too long to permit chewing. Rats will even graw concrete in order to shorten their teeth. Therefore, rat stoppage requires the use of galvanized iron, brass plates, concrete and other materials that are hard to penetrate.

Dial 2811 with Personals.

WHY BUY STATE FARM?

Our Semi-Annual Premium Plan makes Auto Insurance payments easy-to-budget, easy-to-meet, costs you nothing extra. For more information, call me today . . .

Phones: Office 2663; Home 2089

John P. Taylor
—AGENT—
Office over Babcock Store
Dial 2663 — Appomattox

Hixburg

Hixburg, Feb. 21.- Mr. S of Thomasville, N. C., i to visit in the home of M Hix, Jr., from Tuesday, Fe 23rd.

Mrs. Ernest Harwood is ing from flu. She has bee ed to the house for more week.

Mr. Crote Carson and fa Richmond, were guests of Mrs. Jim Carson last wee

Jim Carson visited his Charlie, in the Virginia Bapt pital in Lynchburg on Charlie has undergone two tions there recently.

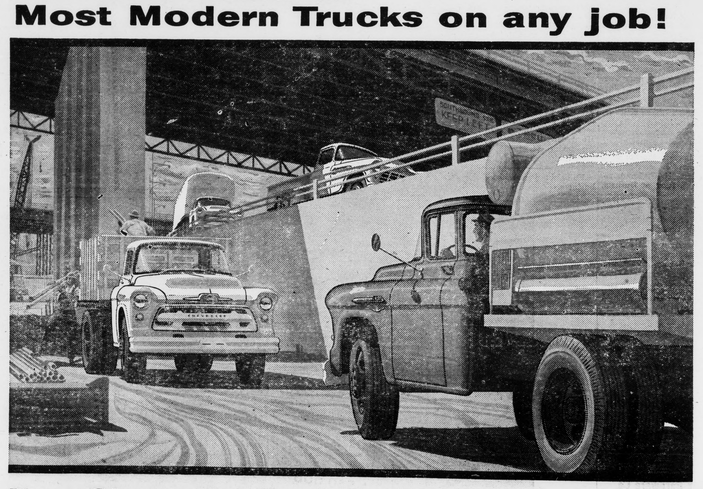
Miss Rosalie Fore, of Lo College, spent the week-end home.

Miss Louella Martin wa house gues; of Miss Eloise on Friday night.

Henry Earl Covington is ed to the house on account sickness.

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Glo the guests of Mr. and Mrs Glover. On Feb. 8, Marvin w tered out of the Army. Mr er has a two weeks' leave f school in Gretna. As soon sible, Marvin will begin w his house, the former Maxwell home. They expect in after Mrs. Maxwell's closes this summer.

AUTOMATICALLY...
Most Modern Trucks on any job!



New Chevrolet Task-Force Trucks for '56!

With new Powermatic—a Chevrolet truck exclusive—and a wider range of Hydra-Matic models, there's an automatic drive for every series! A new 5-speed transmission is offered in heavier duty models!

Revolutionary new Powermatic† combines six fully automatic forward speeds and a torque converter in three drive ranges! That means a ratio that's right for *every* pulling job. Built-in hydraulic retarder adds to engine braking!

Smooth-operating Truck Hydra-Matic† is now available in 3000 and 4000 series trucks; a new *5-speed Synchro-Mesh transmission*† in heavy-duty haulers! With a V8 for every model and new, more powerful sixes, we've got great power-drive combinations! Stop in soon, for details.

Fast Facts About New '56 Task-Force Trucks

HIGH-LEVEL VENTILATION AND CONCEALED SAFETY STEPS!
A MODERN, SHORT-STROKE V8 FOR EVERY MODEL!*
TUBELESS TIRES, STANDARD ON ALL MODELS!
MORE POWERFUL VALVE-IN-HEAD SIXES!
GREAT NEW FIVE-SPEED SYNCHRO-MESH TRANSMISSION!†
AN AUTOMATIC DRIVE FOR EVERY SERIES!†
FRESH, FUNCTIONAL WORK STYLING!

*V8 standard in L.C.F. models, an extra-cost option in all other models. †Optional at extra cost in a wide range of models.

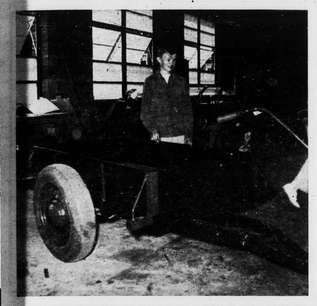
CHEVROLET

Anything less is an old-fashioned truck!

MOSES MOTOR COMPANY
Phone 3773 Dealer's License No. 3 Appomattox, Virginia

NO. 64 OF A SERIES . . .

A Salute to the Future Farmers of America



F. F. A. SHOP WORK. Pictured above is John Evans as a Freshman vocational agriculture student with a trailer he built in the school shop to use with a small garden tractor.

F. F. A. CREED

I believe in the future of farming, with a faith born not of words but of deeds-achievements won by the present and past generations of farmers; in the promise of better days through better ways, even as the better things we now enjoy have come up to us from the struggles of former years.

I believe that to live and work on a good farm is pleasant as well as challenging; for I know the joys and discomforts of farm life and hold an inborn fondness for those associations which, even in hours of discouragement, I cannot deny.

I believe in leadership from ourselves and respect from others. I believe in my own ability to work efficiently and think clearly, with such knowledge and skill as I can secure, and in the ability of organized farmers to serve our own and the public interest in marketing the product of our toil. I belive we can safeguard thoose rights against practices and policies that are unfair.

I believe in less dependence on begging and more power in bargaining; in the life abundant and enough honest wealth to help make it so for others as well as myself; in less need for charity and more of it when needed; in being happy myself and playing square with those whose happiness depends upon me.

I believe that rural America can and will hold true to the best traditions in our national life and that I can exert an influence in my home and community which will stand solid for my part in that inspiring task.

F. F. A. SHOP WORK. David Austin stands proudly in front of one of two farm trailers he built in the school shop during his Freshman year.

THIS IS NATIONAL F. F. A. WEEK . . .

Future Farmers of America members throughout the nation have scheduled special activities to focus public attention on the work of their organization during National F. F. A. Week, February 18-25.

Locally, members of the Robert E. Lee FFA chapter observed this special week by news articles and pictures in this paper and by a special assembly program before the student body of Appomattox High School. Several FFA posters have also been put on display.

Monday morning, the local chapter in a program before the student body of the high school carried on a regular FFA meeting in which their opening and closing ceremonies were used, the FFA was explained, and a problem was solved by parliamentary means.

Ralph Reynolds, president of the local chapter, presided at this assembly. He pointed out that there are over 9,000 chapters and 380,000 members in the Future Farmers of America organization. Frank Inge, local treasurer, explained why the FFA honors George Washington in their meetings. . . . Washington was one of the first farmers in America to use alfalfa, rotation of crops to conserve soil, and to try new methods of cultivation, marketing, and new crops. Floyd Fleshman affirmed a belief in the future of farming, believing that there are good opportunities for good farmers. Wesley Newcomb talked on the responsibilities facing FFA members and others in conservation and wise use of our soil and other agricultural resources and equipment.

FFA membership in Virginia totals 8106. This membership is made up of farm boys who are students of vocational agriculture in high school. The organization's are designed primarily to help develop rural leadership and good citizenship, and to stimulate the boys to better achievement in their study and work toward successful establishment in farming. Advisors for the local chapter are Henry Pack and W. Lewis Motley.

This Community Message Sponsored by the following "Growing With Appomattox" firms and institutions, as a public service

Maude's Hot Shop
Route 460—1 Mile West of Appomattox
Dial 8871 for Reservations
Dinner Parties & Banquets
Our aim is to give a wide variety of the best foods.

Moses Motor Co.
Chevrolet & Oldsmobile
Minneapolis-Moline Tractors and All Farm Equipment
Sales and Service That Satisfies
Dial 3773

Pulliam Motor Sales
Ford Tractor Sales & Service
Dial Appomattox 3662

Poe Hardware Co.
Hardware & Electrical Supplies
Dial 2612

Virginia Novelty Co., Inc.
Appomattox, Virginia

Appomattox Esso Servicenter
"Boots" LeGrand, Prop.
A Complete Service Station in the Heart of Appomattox
Phone 8951 Route 460

Appomattox Hardware Co., Inc.
Dial 3131
A complete line of Hardware
Appliances - Plumbing - Housewares

Farmers National Bank
Member F. D. I. C.
Member Federal Reserve
Dial 3001

Garst & Jamerson
Wood, Lumber and Ties
Dial 2451

Appomattox Telephone Co.
Growing With and Serving the Appomattox Area

Grinels Motor Co.
Ford Sales & Service
Dial Appomattox 2121

Coleman's Feed & Seed Store
Your Southern States Dealer
Dial 3663 Appomattox, Va.

J. E. Jamerson & Sons
Building Materials
Paint — Blocks — Woodwork Cements, etc.
Dial 2673 Appomattox, Va.

Bank of Appomattox
Ideals Create Real Values
Member F. D. I. C.
Dial 2421

Richard D. Robinson
Ambulance Service
Dial 3331 or 2231
Appomattox, Virginia

J. E. Sears & Co., Inc.
Manufacturers & Dealers in
BUILDING MATERIAL
Appomattox Dial 2891
Lynchburg Branch Dial 2-3409
"Everything to build Anything"